

representative government was instituted in a part of the world that, until that day, had automatically been associated with tyranny and despotism.

Although short-lived, this declaration is testament to a freedom-loving nation's devotion to the ideals of liberty and democracy. The events of June 12, 1898, rejected oppression and foreign domination. It has served as an inspiration to other peoples suffering from colonialism.

The people of Guam share deep cultural and historical ties with the Philippines. The island's population includes a large number of Filipino immigrants. Over the years, as in numerous other locales, they have integrated themselves with the island community and made themselves a vital force in the development and growth of Guam.

I am honored to join the Filipino people in the commemoration and celebration of their history. I extend my congratulations to them on the 101st anniversary of the declaration of Philippine independence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce bipartisan legislation to revitalize low-income communities throughout our Nation. The bill would provide grant funding for the communities recently designated as Round II Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities and Strategic Planning Communities. In combination with various tax incentives, this direct funding will help stimulate job growth and economic revitalization in inner-city, rural, and Native American communities that have yet to benefit from our Nation's growing economy.

As the result of a bipartisan collaboration between myself and Jack Kemp in 1993, Congress created nine Empowerment Zones (6 urban/3 rural) and 94 Enterprise Communities (65 urban/29 rural), which provided several tax incentives for businesses to invest and locate in economically depressed inner-city and rural areas. OBRA 1993 also provided these same communities with approximately \$1 billion in direct Social Services Block Grant funds, which are being used to address particular barriers to increased employment and economic development, such as shortages in job training, child care, housing, and transportation. By 1997, the Round I EZs and ECs used their grant funds and tax incentives to create nearly 20,000 new jobs for people who previously had little or no economic opportunity.

A second round of 20 Empowerment Zones (EZs) was authorized by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 to build on the success of the original 9 EZs. However, unlike the original EZs, Round II Zones have not yet been provided with Social Services Block Grant funding.

To provide Round II designations with the same advantages as the original EZs, the Empowerment Zone Enhancement Act would pro-

vide \$97 million over 9 years for each urban Empowerment Zone, and \$38 million over 9 years for each rural Empowerment Zone. In addition, the bill would provide one-time allocations for other needy rural and urban areas: \$3 million in FY 2000 for each of the 20 new Rural Enterprise Communities and \$3 million in FY 2000 for each of the 15 urban Strategic Planning Communities. Along with the tax incentives and bonding authority already approved by the last Congress, this new grant funding is expected to help create and retain about 90,000 new jobs and stimulate \$20.3 billion in private and public investment over the next ten years.

Mr. Speaker, the Empowerment Zone concept, which emphasizes business development and community renewal, is a clear success story. In my home town of Harlem, I have witnessed first hand the ability of Empowerment Zones to help renew investment and economic development. Other regions of the country are waiting for a similar economic revival. I therefore strongly urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to provide increased economic opportunity for more Americans.

EDITOR DAN WARNER RETIRES AFTER 44 YEARS IN THE NEWS BUSINESS

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to pay tribute to one of the nation's finest newspaper editors, Dan Warner, who is retiring after 44 years in the news business and 27 years as Editor of The Eagle-Tribune, in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Under the leadership of publishers Irving E. Rogers Jr., who passed away last year, and Irving E. "Chip" Rogers III, who is steering the business into the new millennium, Dan has guided one of the last independent, local, family-owned newspapers in America through a period of unprecedented growth, change and success.

As editor and in his Sunday columns, Dan was always a tireless advocate for Eagle-Tribune readers, the community and the people and institutions of the Merrimack Valley. He believed in the intrinsic value of factual reporting and its ability to provoke and inspire readers to get more involved in their community. He created an ethic among reporters that their solemn duty to both readers and subjects was to cover the news fairly and aggressively and always to present the human dimension of a story. Dan also was a pioneer in the use of bright colors, bold graphics and innovative design to deliver the news in a more attractive and reader-friendly package. He leaves his successor, Steve Lambert, a publication that has been recognized as one of the best regional newspapers in the United States.

Under Dan Warner's stewardship, The Eagle-Tribune received the highest honor in journalism, the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for general news reporting for its probe of the Massachusetts prison furlough program. He also led the newspaper to be honored twice as a Pulitzer Prize finalist for exposing corruption in international hockey and telling the story of the tragic fire that nearly destroyed Malden Mills in

the heart of Lawrence's poorest neighborhood, and the heroic effort to rebuild the business. Dan also guided The Eagle-Tribune to 11 awards as New England Newspaper of the Year and scores of prizes for exemplary reporting, photography, commentary, design and public service.

Born and raised in Ohio, Dan adopted the Merrimack Valley as his home 30 years ago and displays the love and caring for the region of a native born citizen. He is a devoted friend and dedicated family man. Even when he disagrees with you, as I have experienced more than once, Dan always gives you a fair hearing to present your point of view.

Mr. Speaker, Dan Warner is a man who prodded leaders of government, industry and community to do better, and always remembered that the people he spoke for did not always have a voice in the corridors of power. On behalf of the people of the Merrimack Valley, I wish him a happy retirement with his wife, Janet, his two children and his beloved little dog, Rewrite.

TRIBUTE TO PALISADES PARK, NEW JERSEY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize the Borough of Palisades Park on the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

During the last decade of the last century, the New Jersey State Legislature passed legislation which made it possible for any community to organize itself into a Borough. The residents living in the area that would become Palisades Park took advantage of this opportunity and filed the requisite papers with the court in Hackensack. In 1899, the Borough of Palisades Park was created.

Over the past 100 years, Palisades Park has grown into a vital part of Bergen County and the State of New Jersey. While its tree-lined streets evoke memories of a simpler time in our nation's history, the hustle and bustle of its main thoroughfares make it clear that Palisades Park has grown into a modern and thriving community.

Over the course of the past one hundred years, Palisades Park has grown into one of New Jersey's most vibrant towns. It has developed into a vital economic force and can boast of being called home by a rich mosaic of cultures. The countless gifts and special talents of its residents have helped make it a terrific place to live and raise a family.

The many individuals whose tireless efforts and contributions have imbued Palisades Park with its unique spirit of community should be commended for giving her sons and daughters a rich legacy from which to learn. Palisades Park's future is bright and I anticipate hearing news of its newest successes and triumphs in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to come and visit Palisades Park to experience the Borough's beauty firsthand.